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Grant Applications for Programs Addressing Violent Crimes Against Women Currently Being Accepted

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) announced today Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors (STOP) Grants are currently being accepted. Eligible entities interested in applying for STOP Grants can do so thru 11:59 p.m. on March 4th, 2016.

Established in 1994 with the creation of the Federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), STOP Grants are designed to address needs and issues resulting in crimes such as domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking. While the program was initially designed to serve primarily women, both men and women victimized by domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking may be served through these funds. In addition, the grants serve to improve the criminal justice system's response to violent crimes against women. In 2015, ICJI awarded over \$2 million in STOP Grants. **For 2016, a total of 70 percent of the State's federal award will be dedicated to prosecutor offices, law enforcement agencies, and courts.**

STOP grant applications are accepted through the Egrants online application process, found at <https://egrants.cji.in.gov>. Applicants must be registered in Egrants, and first time registrants can visit the Egrants website and click on the Register button located on the front page. Failure to register will prevent applicants from obtaining access to the application system and registration could take several days for first time registrants. ICJI is not responsible for applicants who fail to submit a timely application due to technical difficulties that occur within 48 hours of the deadline. Late and/or incomplete applications and applications submitted through any means other than Egrants, will not be considered for funding.

State, county, municipal agencies, nonprofit, and nongovernmental organizations may apply for funding, as well as past recipients, related programs, and those wishing to establish creative solutions. Additionally, ICJI is continually looking for new and innovative programs that address the various, sometimes life-long effects, of victimization.

ICJI is mindful of the various barriers in providing direct services to underserved victims. Underserved areas are populations defined by VAWA, and may include but are not limited to, areas underserved because of geographic location, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, racial or ethnic populations, age, and special needs. Programs currently serving or wishing to serve these populations are highly encouraged to apply.

For more information regarding Indiana's statewide resources available to assist victims of crime, please visit: www.IN.gov/CJI, and click on the victim services link. For those needing technical assistance with submitting an application, the Egrants Helpdesk is available Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 pm ET, and can be reached at CJIHelpDesk@cji.in.gov. An Egrants manual is also available, and can be found at <http://www.in.gov/cji/2375.htm>.

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